REMARKS

Claims 1 and 10-12 are pending and appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. Claims 2-9 and 13-21 have been cancelled in previous amendments. Claims 1 and 10 are amended in order to advance prosecution and bring the claims in condition for allowance. Support for the amendments is found in the original claims and specification. As no new matter has been introduced by any of these changes or additions, they all should be entered into the application at this time. In particular, these changes now place the entire application in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Henschen et al. ("Human fibrinogen sequence, sulfur bridge, glycosylation and some structural variants", in "Protides of the Biological Fluids" (1980) Proc. 28th Colloq., Peeters, H., ed., page 51-56), for the reasons set forth in the Advisory Action.

Claims 1 and 10-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by, or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over, Pandya et al. (J. Biol. Chem. (1985) 260, 2994-3000), for the reasons set forth in the Advisory Action.

Applicants respectfully traverse. The claims have been amended to require an isolated peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1. Henschen and Pandya do not teach an isolated peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, and hence do not anticipate the claims. Accordingly, the rejections have been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 10 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. That being the case, dependent claims 11 and 12 are also allowable.

In view of the preceding, it is believed that the entire application is in condition for allowance, early notification of which would be appreciated. Please call the undersigned to expedite the allowance of all claims in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 3/17/2006

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